



For the defense of rights of trees and animals
COMMUNITY RANGER'S ASSOCIATION OF CONGO

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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

INTRODUCTION

Dear Wildlife Friends, Sponsors & donors,

It has been a momentous for our Ranger work and we would like to share some of our most notable achievements for the year 2022 and future Challenges 2023.

None of which would have been possible without your support. Thank you very much.

We are honored to finish our 11 months mission at ITAV-Butembo/Forestry Departement, in and around the Mususa Forest Reserve located in Butembo town, in the Kandole Community Reserve, as well as through the Junior Ranger program with schools around the Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park.

Globally, it was a hard work, amazing and successful field work missions.

Many thanks to our Field Assistants Mr **SAMUEL KABATUKO**, Mr **Eric PALUKU**, Mr **MBAFUMOJA JULES** based in Butembo town and **VIANEY JEAN MARIE** based in Goma city.

Special thanks to all our 40 Community Rangers for their great work in the Mususa Forest Reserve and Kandole Community Reserve.

As a reminder, The Kandole Community Reserve and the Mususa Forest Reserve have reportedly received the attention of scientists from all over the world because of their rich biodiversity.

Thanks to our main sponsor the **PARMER FAMILY TRUST** and the **HARAMBE FOUNDATION INC**; our Conservation Areas are currently well managed. There is a positive impact on the Wildlife Management.

However there are still many things to do and many opportunities here in the region.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Since this year, we were focused on the **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** at the Agronomic & Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo "ITAV-BUTEMBO" where we are supporting 46 students in the Forestry Department (4 Pygmies, 22 Orphan of Rangers and 20 children from villages bordering the Mususa Forest Reserve), the " **JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM** with schools around the Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park" the **GORILLA MONITORING PROJECT WITH TRIAL CAMERAS UV 595 HD** in the Kandole Community Reserve, the **QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE INVENTORY OF PLANTS SPECIES in the Mususa Forest Reserve and the WILDLIFE RESCUE PROJECT AROUND THE MUSUSA FOREST RESERVE.**

From January 2023, the Community Ranger's Association of Congo "CAF CONGO" will be running the " **ROOT & SHOOTS PROGRAM**" with schools around the Virunga National Park in partnership with the Jane Goodall's Institute Israel.

I. PARMER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

1. The PARMER Scholarship Program (2021-2025)

The Community Ranger's Association of Congo "CAF CONGO" thanks to the **PARMER FAMILY FUNDS** is supporting the scholarship Program in favor of 46 students(4 Pygmies, 22 Orphan of Rangers and 20 children from villages bordering the Mususa Forest Reserve) at the Agronomic & Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo "ITAV-BUTEMBO" in the Forestry Department (2021-2025).

1. Global Objective:

In general, this program aims to support the schooling and support of orphan children of Rangers, pygmy children and children of poachers who study in schools around the Mususa Forest Reserve and stimulate them to continue their secondary studies in the Department of Forestry at the Agronomic & Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo "ITAV-Butembo".

For those who will obtain their State diploma in Forestry department, they have to follow their university studies in the Department of "Nature Conservation & Wildlife Management" at the Graben Catholic University of Butembo "UCG-Butembo" before begin working as Rangers.

2. Target Group:

The target group is students from schools around the Mususa Forest Reserve recruited from neighboring villages and especially:

- Orphan children of Rangers,
- Pygmy children
- The children of poachers & hunters

3. Project Impact:

This project is an innovation in the region. It is part of the framework of creating a new Ranger Elite and preparing a new generation of Rangers motivated and focused on “*Community and Participatory Conservation of Congolese Conserved Areas*”.

Through this program, CAF’s impact is to transform the children of poachers and the poachers themselves into true Rangers.

This is positively contributing to the change of mentality of local Communities.

4. Our ideology & Our slogan:

“My father is a poacher. My parents are pygmies. I don't have to become a poacher too. I have to study and then become a Ranger, a real Conservationist and then contribute to the Wildlife Conservation in Congo”.

5. Selection Criteria:

- Being a child of a school age (12-18 years)
- Being of Congolese Nationality
- Being available and authorized by his parents
- Being a girl or a boy
- Being an orphan child of Rangers
- Being a child of Pygmies or a poacher
- Being passionate about the Wildlife & Nature Conservation
- Being ready to follow his/her secondary studies in the Department of Forestry, Wildlife Conservation at the Agronomic and Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo ‘ITAV-BUTEMVO’.

Special thanks to our 46 scholarship students for their good conduct, performance and success.

As a reminder, the Agronomic & Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo ITAV-Butembo'' has reportedly being the first secondary school which organizes the '' Forestry Department'' in the Eastern of DRC.

OUTCOME RESULTS

Thanks to the **PARMER FAMILY FUNDS**, the Community Ranger's Association of Congo '' CAF CONGO'' is supporting the scholarship Program in favor of 46 students(4 Pygmies, 22 Orphan of Rangers and 20 children from villages bordering the Mususa Forest Reserve) at the Agronomic & Veterinary Technical Institute of Butembo ''ITAV-BUTEMBO'' in the Forestry Department (2021-2025).

- a). All 46 students have successfully finished their exams on July 15th 2022. They all succeeded with distinction. The average of results varies between **65 %** and **79,7 %**
- b). Students have past 2 months holidays to relax.
- c) The school year 2022-20023 started on September 15th 2022 till July 2023.
- d). Students, their teachers and their Parents are very happy and acknowledge the support from the Parmer Family. They say '' **THANKS LAUREINE YVONNE PARMER**'.
- e). Students do wish to have support for this school year 2022-20023.
- f). Thanks to this scholarship, the number of students in Forestry Department at ITAV-Butembo is increasing. From 46 students last year to 88 students this year.
- g). After their studies, scholarship students are interested and ready to work as Rangers and then contribute to the Wildlife Conservation of the Mususa Forest Reserve and other Protected Areas in Congo.

Photos by Samuel KABATUKO (CAF Field Officer) ITAV-BUTEMBO





II. JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

In order to prepare a new Ranger Elite in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Community Ranger's Association of Congo "CAF CONGO " in partnership with the **HARAMBE FOUNDATION INC** and the **PARMER FAMILYTRUST** has initiated a program called: “ **Junior Ranger Program**”.

This is mainly a program that operates around Conserved Areas, in particular community reserves and National Parks members of the CAF.

0. Target group:

Children recruited from neighboring villages of the CAF CONGO Conservation Areas. This year, CAF CONGO were focused on 14 schools selected around the Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park and the Mususa Forest Reserve.

1. Selection criteria:

- Be a child of a school age (6-14 years)
- Be of Congolese nationality
- Be available and authorized by his parents
- Be a girl or a boy with no discrimination
- Be passionate about the Wildlife & Nature Conservation

2. Field of actions:

Around the Congolese Conserved Areas members of the CAF CONGO. 14 Primary schools around the Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park and the Mususa Forest Reserve.

Photos by Samuel KABATUKO (CAF Field Officer) KATALIKO NURSARY SCHOOL OF BUTEMBO



Junior Ranger CLOVIS NDAKASI



Junior Ranger CRISPIN NDAKASI

OUTCOME RESULTS

Several activities were organized in favor of the school children in order to motivate, sensitize, and get them to give their contribution to the protection of Natural Resources and Wildlife Conservation in their respective regions:

1). 14 Primary schools were identified around the Mikeno sector/Virunga NP:

	PRIMARY SCHOOLS
1	MBOGA
2	RUKINABARENZI
3	MIKENO
4	NGUGO
5	NYESISI
6	KATALIKO
7	KANOMBE
8	NKOKWE
9	LUHUNGA
10	KAZUBA
11	MUSHORO
12	GISIZA
13	KINGARAMA
14	PNVI RUMANGABO

2). 312 teachers and 1 Inspector of school were involved in the Junior Ranger program

3). 1 856 school children whose age varies between 6-12 years have benefited from topics of the junior Ranger program and the lessons remain engraved in their memory.

4). 10 topics were developed and delivered to school children:

Topics:

- Who is a Ranger? Why to be a Ranger?
- Environment and its importance in human life
- The water cycle
- Mountain Gorillas and their natural habitat
- Why is it important to plant a tree?
- Poaching and its impact on the wildlife in Virunga National park
- The flagship animals of the Virunga National Park
- Eco-tourism
- The consequences of carbonization
- The Climate Change,...

- 5). 84 Classrooms were visited at the rate of 6 classes per school
- 6). 10 field trips to the park with school children have been monthly organized with one field trip per month.
- 7). 40 Hours of time were spent in the park with the school children due 4 hours for each field trip.
- 8). About 3, 360 hours of time were spent between Rangers and with the school children in their classrooms discussing about Environment topics at the rate of 1 hour per week due 4 hours per month during 10 months.
- 9) About 90 Kms were traveled with school children in the park due 9 kms for each field trip.
- 10) 10 cocktails (heath snack) were offered to school children during field trip to the park at the rate of one health snack per month
- 11) 20 buses were rent to carry school Children to the park at the rate of 2 buses during each field trip
- 12) 10 videos were monthly produced in Tik tok version
- 13). 450 photos were produced for our records.

Observation:

In our Operational Plan 2023, CAF CONGO plans to buy its own bus for the “ Junior Ranger Program” in order to facilitate the transport of school Children from their schools to the park.

Photos by SAMUEL KABATUKO (CAF Field Officer/Butembo-DRC)





Junior Rangers SARA and CHARLOTTE 2 children from a family bordering the Mususa Forest Reserve







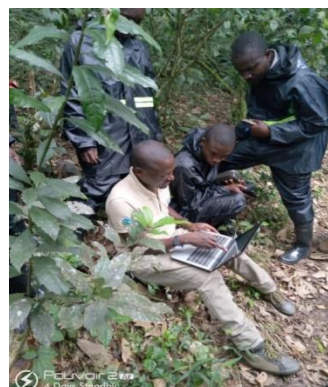
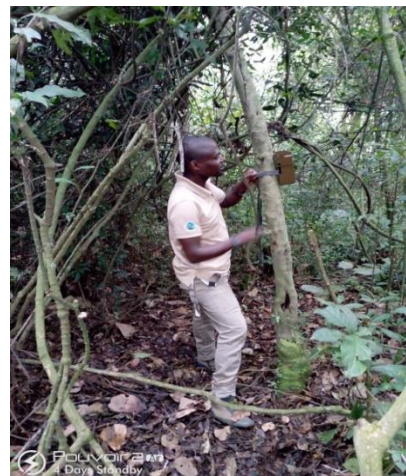
III. THE GORILLA MONITORING PROJECT WITH CAMERAS TRAP UV 595 HD IN THE KANDOLE COMMUNITY RESERVE

OUTCOME RESULTS

- 1). 20 Volunteer rangers were selected as monitoring team
- 2). 192 patrol missions were organized at the rate of 4 patrols per week including 16 patrols per month.
- 3). 4 teams and 4 rotations were made at the rate of one rotation per team and per week
- 4) 3 Trial Cameras UV 595 have been placed in the reserve on 4 different sites
- 5). 2,650 videos lasting 30” per video were recorded by the trial cameras

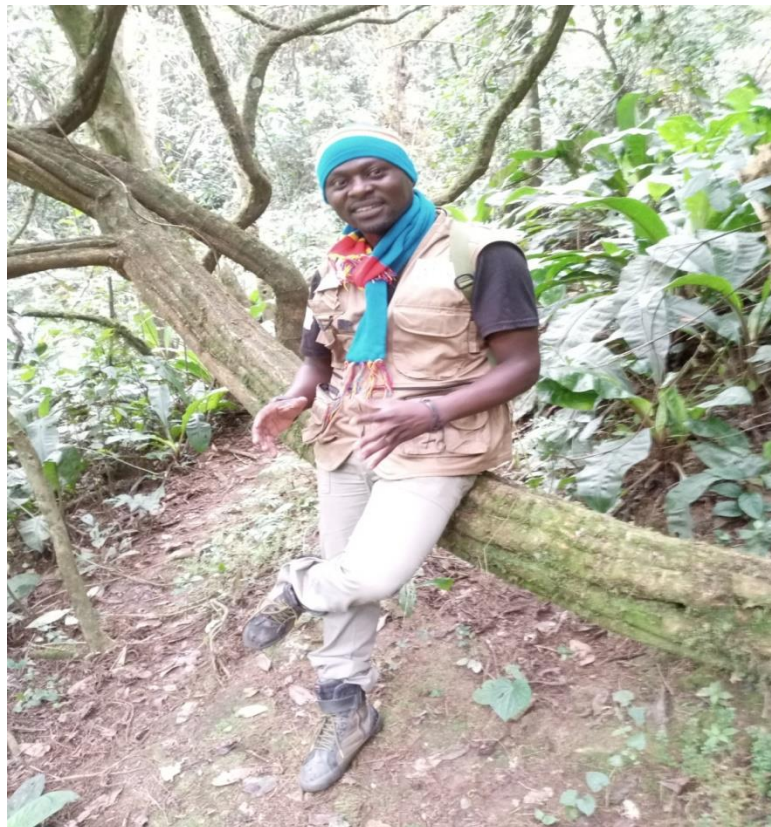
Due to the success and the dynamism of the monitoring team, 78 snares were removed, zero gorillas, zero chimpanzee and zero monkeys were found wounded or killed during this timeframe. In addition, 52 poachers were arrested and then released after ‘sensitization’, and awareness training for the protection of local biodiversity.

Photos by SAMUEL KABATUKO (Field officer)





**IV. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE INVENTORY
OF PLANTS SPECIES IN THE MUSUSA FOREST
RESERVE**





V. IDENTIFICATION OF TOURIST SITES TO REHABILITATE IN THE MUSUSA FOREST RESERVE





VI. WILDLIFE RESCUE PROJECT AROUND THE MUSUSA FOREST RESERVE

According to various reports from local leaders and CAF Intelligence Service, there are many cases of wild animals in illegal traffic in the Lubero Territory especially in the villages of Manguredjipa, Katanga, Lwemba, Bunia, Mambasa...

The Wildlife Rescue Project in the region has been emergency and necessary. This includes the Restoration of endangered animal species in the Mususa Forest Reserve.

In this circumstance, CAF CONGO has organized regular patrol missions in the villages of Manguredjipa, Katanga, Lwemba, Bunia and Mambasa in order to rescue animal species in illegal trade and in captivity within the big vision or Restoring these Wild species in the Mususa forest reserve.

This is step by step impacting to CAF to create the Mususa Zoological Sanctuary ‘MZS’ in Butembo town as part of promoting ‘Ecotourism’ in the region.

OUTCOME RESULTS

- 1) 13 green parrots were rescued from poachers at Mangurujipa village.
- 2) 5 Cages were built in the Mususa Foresrve to guard these Endagerous species.
- 3) 4 touristes sites to rehabilitate were identified in the Mususa Forest Reserve
- 4) It is reported many cases of animals in illegal trade in the region: Chimpanzee, Gorillas, squirrels, Baboons, Calaos, Squirrels, Gambian rat, Tortoise, Gabon Viper, Crabs ...

Photos by Jules MBAFUMOJA (CAF Field Officer in the Mususa Forest Reserve)



VII. FUTURE CHALLENGES (2023-2026)

As indicated in our Operation plan 2023, to reach our strategic objectives, the Community Ranger's Association of Congo 'CAF CONGO' thanks to its sponsors and in collaboration with its local partners will be focused to run the 5 following projects and 2 high priority needs:

1. The PARMER Scholarship Program at ITAV-BUTEMBO
2. The Roots & Shoot Program with schools around Virunga National Park
3. The Junior Ranger Program with schools around Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park
4. The Gorilla Monitoring Project in the Kandole Community Reserve 'REFCOK'
5. Training sessions & Capacity building for 40 Rangers

The Ranger Training will be concerning:

- Ranger life saver (First Aid)
 - Self defense
 - Technic of investigation (Regarding the Wildlife Rescue Missions)
 - The use of GPS GARMIN MAP S64
 - The use of Trail cameras UV 595 HD
 - Tactical Tracking
 - Field data collection
6. Installation of CAF office at Kiwanja
 7. Attend the 10th World Ranger Congress in Azores, Portugal

CONCLUSION

There are many opportunities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Wildlife Conservation in Congo needs your help.

To achieve these future challenges, the Community Ranger's Association of Congo 'CAF CONGO' as a member of the International Ranger Federation 'IRF' and the Game Ranger's Association of Africa 'GRAA' is seeking financial and logistical support from potential Wildlife Friends and donors.

For more information about our Ranger work and our organization, please visit us at:

www.caf-rdc.webnode.co.uk

On behalf of the Community Ranger's Association of Congo, I thank you again for your interest, good Collaboration and support.

Done in Goma, November 22th, 2022

MUHINDO NDAKASI JEAN CLAUDE
Founder & National Coordinator



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OPERATIONAL PLAN CAF 2023

PROJECT	BUDGET IN \$ USD	WHEN												SPONSOR & DONOR
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
1.The Parmer Scholarship Program at ITAV-BUTEMBO	10,672	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
2. The Roots & Shoot Program with schools around Virunga National Park	5,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
3. The Junior Ranger Program with schools around Mikeno sector/Virunga National Park	3,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
4. Gorilla Monitoring Project in the Kandole Community Reserve ‘REFCOK’	5,000		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
5.Training sessions & Capacity building for 40 Rangers at Butembo	6,000													

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